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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SPECIAL
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME
OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND FURTHER INITIATIVES
Organizational session
New York, 19-22 May 1998
Agenda items 3, 4 and 5

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION

PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

Indonesia*: draft decisions

DRAFT DECISION I

Objectives of the special session

The Preparatory Committee, bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 50/161 of 22 December 1995 and 52/25 of 26 November 1997, concerning the convening of a special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and to consider further actions and initiatives, decides that the main purposes of the special session will be:

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

(a) To reaffirm the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and the Programme of Action,[2] agreed at the World Summit, and not to renegotiate them;

(b) To identify progress made and constraints therein, as well as lessons learned, in the implementation of the commitments of the Summit at the national, regional and international levels;

(c) To recommend concrete actions and initiatives for full and effective implementation of the commitments of the World Summit for Social Development.

DRAFT DECISION II

Issues to be addressed

The Preparatory Committee:

(a) Underlines that its task is to review and appraise the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, taking into account the contribution provided by the Commission for Social Development, and to propose concrete actions and initiatives for further implementation of the Copenhagen commitments;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session a report focusing on the implementation of the ten commitments at the national, regional and international levels;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Preparatory Committee and the special session with an up-to-date comprehensive assessment of global trends, through the Report on the World Social Situation, to be issued in time for the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee, in the year 2000.

(d) Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Preparatory Committee at its second substantive session, in the year 2000, a comprehensive document assessing the overall level of implementation of the provisions of the Summit, including the identification of constraints, obstacles and successes, as well as recommendations on further actions and initiatives at the national and international levels to strengthen the national capacity to implement the goals and commitments of the Summit.

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[1] Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

DRAFT DECISION III

Coordination with the Commission for Social Development

The Preparatory Committee, taking into account General Assembly resolution 51/202 of 17 December 1996, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development, as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[2] will undertake work in the biennium 1999-2000 for the preparation of the special session, in accordance with its programme of work as set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996:

(a) Recommends that the Commission for Social Development be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, sharing experiences and identifying areas where further initiatives are needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee, while reaffirming that national reporting is voluntary and at the initiative of the national Government concerned;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to formulate general guidelines and a structure and common framework for national reporting on the progress made and obstacles encountered, with a view to assisting Governments in the preparation of their national reports.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Role of the United Nations system

The Preparatory Committee, reaffirming that its substantive activities should take into account contributions by other relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system:

(a) Invites all relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session, by, inter alia, submitting proposals for further actions and initiatives;

(b) Also invites those bodies to report on their activities in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and Programme of Action;[2]

(c) Invites the regional commissions to identify and share best practices and lessons learned with respect to the implementation of the Summit outcome at the regional and subregional levels;

(d) Invites the United Nations Development Programme to report on the implementation of the Summit commitments aimed at the eradication of poverty, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries;

(e) Invites the International Labour Organization to consider how it might contribute to the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, including activities in cooperation with the United Nations.

DRAFT DECISION V

Participation of non-governmental organizations

The Preparatory Committee, recognizing the important role of non-governmental organizations in implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and the Programme of Action[2] and recalling General Assembly resolution 52/25 of 25 December 1995, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the preparatory process for the special session would benefit from the active involvement of all concerned:

(a) Decides that the work of the Preparatory Committee should be open to the participation of non-governmental organizations, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 and decisions 1996/208 of 9 February 1996 and 1996/315 of 14 November 1996, in which the Council invited those non-governmental organizations that were accredited to major United Nations conferences and summits to attend sessions of the Commission for Social Development, provided that they had started the process of application for consultative status;

(b) Also decides that participation by non-governmental organizations at the special session will be guided by Council resolution 1996/31 and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and will take into account the experience gained at the mid-decade review of the outcome of major United Nations conferences.

DRAFT DECISION VI

Mobilization of voluntary resources

The Preparatory Committee invites Governments to contribute to the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development set up to support the participation of the least developed countries in the work of the Preparatory Committee and the special session and the organization of expert group meetings, seminars, symposia and workshops to be held by the secretariat on issues of relevance to the special session, both of which would contribute to the consideration of such issues by the Preparatory Committee.

DRAFT DECISION VII

Arrangements for future sessions

The Preparatory Committee, taking into account the United Nations calendar of meetings for the years 1999 and 2000 and for the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions of the Commission for Social Development:

(a) Decides to hold its first substantive session in New York from 17 to 28 May 1999 and its second session from [3 to 14 April 2000,] also in New York, for a period of ten working days each;

(b) Also decides that the special session will be held from _____ to _____ 2000 for a period of five working days, at the highest political level.

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Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives
Organizational session
New York, 19-22 May 1998
Agenda item 6
Provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee

Provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee and other organizational matters

Note by the Secretariat

The Preparatory Committee decides to adopt the following agenda for its first session:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Status of preparations for the special session.
3. Preliminary review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development.
4. Consideration of further actions and initiatives to implement the commitments made at the Summit.
5. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Preparatory Committee.
6. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session.

Annotations

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/161 of 22 December 1995, decided to hold a special session of the Assembly in the year 2000 with two purposes: an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the consideration of further actions and initiatives.

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2. At the first session of the Preparatory Committee, the scope for review and appraisal will be limited. Structured requests for national reports will have been sent but responses will not have been completed nor will analysis be far advanced. On the basis of the information available, including in the United Nations system, it should, however, be possible for the Secretariat to provide a preliminary assessment of achievements in and constraints on the implementation of the commitments made in Copenhagen. This should provide a basis for the consideration of further actions and initiatives.

3. The principal subject for discussion will therefore be the identification of the specific issues and initiatives that Governments wish to have placed in the agenda of the special session. As at the Summit, discussion of the means of addressing those issues will relate to goals, strategies, policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels.

4. The 10 commitments agreed at the Summit, as elaborated in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, will provide the framework for discussion. Specific issues raised by delegations during the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee will be discussed by the Bureau and presented, in a structured manner, in a document to be distributed before the first session of the Preparatory Committee. This would be based on proposals prepared by countries, background reports prepared by the appropriate entities of the United Nations system, the results of expert meetings and reports prepared by consultants on issues identified by countries for consideration, which will also be circulated to delegations.

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Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives
Organizational session
New York, 19-22 May 1998
Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session

Draft report

I. Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its organizational session at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 22 May 1998. The Preparatory Committee held ____ meetings (1st to ____) and a number of informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Vice-President of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, Mr. Christos Zacharakis (Greece).

3. At the 1st meeting, on 19 May, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee made an introductory statement.

B. Attendance

4. The following States were represented: ...

5. The following units and programmes of the United Nations Secretariat were represented: ...

6. The following specialized agencies were represented: ...

7. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: ...

C. Officers

8. At the 1st and 4th meetings, on 19 and 20 May 1998, the Preparatory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman:
Cristian Maqueira (Chile)

Vice-Chairmen:
Bagher Asadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Abdallah Baali (Algeria)
Ion Gorita (Romania)
Koos Richelle (Netherlands)

Ex officio:
Aurelio Fernandez (Spain)

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9. At the ____ meeting, on __ May, the Preparatory Committee designated _____ Vice-Chairman with rapporteurial responsibilities.

D. Agenda

10. At the 1st meeting, on 19 May 1998, the Preparatory Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document A/AC.253/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Preparations for the special session.
4. Participation of non-governmental organizations.
5. Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee.
6. Provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee.
7. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session.